

Bill No. 41-05  
Concerning: Health Services – Advisory  
Board for Montgomery Cares Program –  
Establishment  
Revised: 1/31/06 Draft No. 4  
Introduced: December 6, 2005  
Expires: June 6, 2007  
Enacted: January 31, 2006  
Executive: \_\_\_\_\_  
Effective: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sunset Date: January 1, 2009  
Ch. \_\_\_\_\_, Laws of Mont. Co. \_\_\_\_\_

## COUNTY COUNCIL FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

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By: Health and Human Services Committee

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**AN ACT** to:

- (1) establish an Advisory Board for the Montgomery Cares Program with certain requirements regarding composition, terms, officers, duties, voting, meetings, and staff; and
- (2) generally amend the law relating to health care services for uninsured County residents.

By adding

Montgomery County Code  
Chapter 24, Health and Sanitation  
Article VI, Advisory Board for Montgomery Cares Program

<b>Boldface</b>	<i>Heading or defined term.</i>
<u>Underlining</u>	<i>Added to existing law by original bill.</i>
[Single boldface brackets]	<i>Deleted from existing law by original bill.</i>
<u>Double underlining</u>	<i>Added by amendment.</i>
[[Double boldface brackets]]	<i>Deleted from existing law or the bill by amendment.</i>
* * *	<i>Existing law unaffected by bill.</i>

*The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland approves the following Act:*

Section 1. Chapter 24 is amended by adding Article VI, Advisory Board for Montgomery Cares Program:

**Article VI. Advisory Board for Montgomery Cares Program.**

**24-47. Definitions.**

(a) In this article the following words have the meanings indicated.

(b) “Board” means the Advisory Board for the Montgomery Cares Program.

(c) “Department” means the Department of Health and Human Services.

(d) “Program” means the Montgomery Cares Program, a public/private partnership between the Department and a network of nonprofit clinics and hospitals that provides primary medical care and prescription medications to low-income, uninsured adults who reside in the County.

**24-48. Established.**

There is an Advisory Board for the Montgomery Cares Program.

**24-49. Mission.**

The Board’s mission is to guide the development of the Program to ensure steady and measurable growth in the number of uninsured County residents accessing high quality and efficient health care services, including primary, specialty, dental, and behavioral health care services.

**24-50. Members; ~~[[and]]~~ appointments; terms.**

(a) Total members. The Board has ~~[[11]]~~ 15 members.

(b) Ex officio members. Subject to confirmation by the County Council, the County Executive should appoint the following individuals to serve as ex officio members of the Board:

(1) The County Health Officer or Officer’s designee; and

(2) The Chief of the Department’s Behavioral Health and Crisis Services or the Chief’s designee.

(c) Other members. Subject to confirmation by the County Council, the County Executive ~~[[must]]~~ should appoint the following individuals to serve on the Board:

(1) 2 representatives of community health care providers that participate in the Program~~[[, nominated by a majority of the community health care providers that participate in the Program]]~~;

(2) 1 representative of hospitals that participate in the Program~~[[, nominated by a majority of the hospitals that participate in the Program]]~~;

(3) The chair of the Board of Directors of the entity that contracts with the Department to ~~[[manage the delivery of services under the]]~~ administer the distribution of funds for the delivery of Program services or the chair's designee;

(4) ~~[[1]]~~ 3 members of the public, who may be current or former ~~[[recipient]]~~ recipients of services under the Program;

(5) ~~[[1 expert on oral health issues;~~

(6) 1 expert on fiscal issues relating to health care systems for uninsured individuals; and

(7) 2 experts on general issues relating to health care systems for uninsured individuals]] 4 individuals who have knowledge of and experience with issues relating to health care for uninsured individuals such as primary care, specialty care, dental care, behavioral health care, or fiscal matters relating to any of these types of care;

(6) 1 representative of the Commission on Health; and

(7) 1 representative of the County Medical Society.

(d) [(1) A member appointed under subsection (c)(1) or (2) must be appointed to serve a 1-year term. If nominated again as provided under subsection (c)(1) and (2), the County Executive must re-appoint the member, subject to confirmation by the County Council.]

(2) A member appointed under subsection (c)(3) through (7) must be appointed to serve a 3-year term.]] Terms. A member appointed under subsection (c) will serve a 2-year term.

(e) Appointments; removal. Section 2-148 does not apply to members appointed under subsection (b).

**24-51. Voting[, officers,]; chair; meetings[, and]; compensation.**

(a) Voting. All members of the Board are voting members.

(b) Chair. The members [[appointed under Section 24-50(c)(4) through (7)]] of the Board must elect a chair by majority vote to serve a 1-year term.

(c) Meetings. The Board must meet at least 10 times each year.

(d) [[Section 2-148 does not apply to members appointed under Section 24-50(b).]]

(e)] Compensation. Except as provided in subsection (f), a member must serve without compensation.

[[f)] (e) Expenses. A member may request reimbursement for mileage and dependent care costs at rates established by the County.

**24-52. Duties and staff.**

(a) Duties. The Board may advise the County Executive, County Council, and Department on any matter relating to the goal of ensuring a steady and measurable growth in the number of uninsured County residents accessing high quality health care services, including:

(1) Eligibility criteria for participating health care providers;

- (2) Eligibility criteria for individuals served by the Program;
- (3) [[Formulas for funding primary, specialty, dental, and behavioral health care services]] The method for allocating Program funds;
- (4) The method of distributing funds to participating health care providers
- (5) [[The budget for each component of the Program, including administration, drugs, and primary, specialty, dental, and behavioral health care services]] The Program budget;
- (6) Growth targets and resources needed to meet those targets; [[and]]
- (7) Evaluation of the Program, including quality of care assessment; and
- (8) Strategic planning.

(b) Report. The Board must submit a quarterly report to the County Executive, County Council, and Department on its activities, findings, and recommendations.

(c) Consideration of findings and recommendations. The County Executive, County Council, and Department must give serious consideration to the findings and recommendations of the Board [[and publicly articulate a rationale for deviating from any Board recommendation]].

(d) Staff. The Department must provide appropriate staff for the Board.

**24-53. Termination.**

(a) Date. The Board will terminate on January 1, 2009.

(b) Continuance of Board. By September 1, 2008, the Board must recommend to the County Executive and County Council whether the County should continue the Board or establish an alternative governance structure for the Program.

111 *Approved:*

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114 George L. Leventhal, President, County Council

Date

115 *Approved:*

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Douglas M. Duncan, County Executive

Date

117 *This is a correct copy of Council action.*

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Linda M. Lauer, Clerk of the Council

Date

